

## House Resolution No. 4096

**Whereas**, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives feel it is altogether fitting and proper to pause from time to time to recognize communities that have contributed to the welfare of this great state and its citizens; and

**Whereas**, the members now pause to recognize the community and the citizens and the City of Gerald, Missouri, who are marking their one hundredth anniversary; and

**Whereas**, Gerald became an incorporated village on June 12, 1907, when it was already well populated, and as early as 1800, many inhabitants lived here, and the Osage Indians would come to a trading post to buy and trade food; and

**Whereas**, the settlers themselves were mostly farmers, growing corn, wheat, cotton, tobacco, and flax, and at first they only grew enough for personal consumption, but later would haul their crops to New Haven, Hermann, or Washington on the Missouri River; and

**Whereas**, one of the oldest roads in the state, Springfield Road was a famous road in the 1800s, being used for a mail route and a stage coach route, and it was commonplace to see Texas cattle being driven from Texas to St. Louis on that road; and

**Whereas**, originally known as Shotwell and later named Gerald when the railroad came through, this was where all the settlers would come to buy their food, clothing and sell their farm products; and

**Whereas**, Gerald as we know it was born when the Rock Island Railroad laid their tracks from Union, Missouri, through Gerald as far west as what we now know as Soap Creek Bridge west of Rosebud, and shortly after this it became necessary to have a name for this train stop so shipments could be sent there; and

**Whereas**, the civil engineer with Rock Island named Major Marvin insisted they call the stop Fitzgerald, because he respected a local doctor named William Fitzgerald, who opposed the idea, saying that he didn't want people to call out his name when he wasn't needed, so Gerald became a happy compromise:

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, join to extend our heartiest congratulations to the citizens of Gerald, Missouri, on the auspicious occasion of their centennial anniversary and to wish them every prosperity in the future; and

**Be it further resolved** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for the City of Gerald, Missouri.

Offered by \_\_\_\_\_  
Representative Charles Schlottach  
District No. 111

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 4096, adopted June 21, 2007.

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Rod Jetton, Speaker